FIRST BALLOT AT THE ST. LOUIS CONVENTION

Chances of Candidates as Summed Up After a Canvass of the Republican Congressional Delegations.

Mckinley in the lead at the present time

The Ohio Candidate Against the Field---Votes for Reed, Allison and Other Candidates---Uncertainty of McKinley's Southern Support---Details of the Situation in Various States.

On the present basis of representation York, 72; North Carolina, 5; Pennsylvania, state, Congressman Grout said: "We are for years, announced himself for McKinley for the American doctrine of silver and gold. We are for keeping the two metals convention was held Gen. Clayton's name 456 votes will be necessary to nominate 60; Utah, 6; Minnesota, 18, South Dakota, candidates for President and Vice President at the republican national convention. A canvass of the several states and territories has been made by Star reporters, through the congressional delegations, and the result is given below:

McKinley will probably be well in the lead on the first ballot at the St. Louis convention. In the contest for delegates, as it new stands, it is the field against the Ohio candidate. Bread claims are being made by McKinley's friends, and in many instances these claims cannot be tested because of the unsettled situation in many states counted for him. The indications are that he will have in the neighborhood of 262 delegates on the first ballot. It is claimed by his antagonists that he will re-



Ex-Gov. McKinley.

ceive his highest vote on the first two bal- the start. It is counted as not improbable lots. It is conceded that Reed will have that the entire Indiana delegation may go other candidates seem to be willing to run to draw largely from Michigan, Minnesota, the risk of the Maine man's getting the Hillinois and parts of the south, on a break nomination, and to make common cause against McKinley. Two weak points in the case of Ohio's favorite son to which attention is called are that the boom is too well developed far in advance of the convention, thus encouraging the rivals to throw darts at it; and that it depends too much upon the southern votes.

The southern delegations are not generally regarded as a safe reliance, and in the have Kentucky behind him. Alger or Burpresent instance there will be contesting delegations from several of the southern states. In these cases of contest, the choice is apt to depend upon the complex- ably have all but four of the Illinois deleion of the convention as determined by the gation. majority of delegates without contests. For this reason, Mr. McKinley might have closes a situation which indicates a strong already to control the convention before he could add these contestants to his column. In Florida two districts have in- to McKinley of the delegates whose posidorsed Reed, and there are two sets of del- tion is doubtful would hardly give him egates contesting for the other six places. strength to control the convention at the One delegation is for Morton and the other for McKinley. This delegation, while claimed, cannot be counted for McKinley unless he controls the convention without it.

Mississippi presents a contest. While both delegations at the outset were supposed to be for McKinley, it is believed that incidents of the fight have rendered it probable that one of these delegations will tion is rendered unavailable in aiding the Ohio candidate to control the convention organization.

A similar situation is expected to affect the delegations of South Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana and Texas, which will probably send contesting delegations. It is therefore possible that 106 delegates, or most of those representing these states, will have nothing to do with the temporary organization.

For and Against McKinley. The present indications are that McKinley

will go into the convention with about 16 votes from Arkansas, about 20 votes from Indiana, 20 votes from Kansas, 30 from Missouri, 46 from Ohio, 8 from Oregon, 16 from Tennessee, 6 from Virginia, 12 from West Virginia and 22 from Wisconsin. Besides these 194 votes, he is liable to get at the start 6 from Alabama, 6 from Delaware, 6 from Illinois, 10 from Indiana, 2 from Netraska, 17 from North Carolina, 6 from North Dakota and (at least) 13 in Georgia, making in all 262, that there is a reasonable prospect of his having on the first ballot. The uncertainties in this estimate may safe ly be reckoned as offset by the uncertain tles among those counted as not favorable to the Ohio candidate.

In all estimates politicians are now mak ing the delegates are divided into simply



McKinley and anti-McKinley classes, as the first fight is expected to come in that form.

The votes calculated as most apt not to be cast for McKinley are: California, 18; Colorado, 8; Idaho, 6; Illinois, 42; Iowa, 20; New England, 78; Maryland, 16; Montana, 6; Nebraska, 14; Nevada, 6; New Jersey, 20; New Talking of the financial sentiment of the

8, and Tennessee, 8; making 417.

Votes in Doubt.

This leaves 125 votes in doubt or divided -as between McKinley and the field-Georgia, 13; Kentucky, 28; Missouri, 4; Virginia, 18; Washington, 8; Wisconsin, 2; Wyoming, 6; Arizona, 2; New Mexico, 6; Oklahema, 2; District of Columbia, 2; Indian territory, 2; Alaska, 2, and Pennsylvania, 4, in addition to 106 delegates contested. Of these most of the Michigan and Kentucky votes are apt to go to McKinley if the states are not represented by favorite sons. Bradley is almost sure to have the Kentucky vote on the first ballot. It is doubtful about Michigan presenting a

Reed will have the 78 New England votes sure, and with reasonable certainty 5 from North Carolina, 6 from Tennessee, 12 from Virginia, 2 frem Florida, making 103. It is believed that he will get out of the contesting delegations 15 from Louisiana, possibly all the Lynch delegation from Mississippi, 18; 12 from Alabama and a majority of Texas. It is expected that he will get 8 in Georgia, 3 in Missouri, 20 in New Jersey, half, if not all the 18 California delegates, 16 from Maryland. These latter estimates are only approximate, since no definite calculation can now be made as to how the anti-McKinley delegates, when there are divided delegations, will be dis-

tributed-among the several other candidates. It is thought that Reed will have on the start upward of 200 votes, not counting large blocks of delegates who will be tied to other candidates at first. Allison's Strength. It is difficult to estimate Allison's

strength. He will have the twenty-six Iowa votes and a few scattering here and there to start with, but is second or third choice in many quarters. On account of the possibilities of a deadlock his stock is quoted high, without much being in sight at

Other Candidates.

Merton and Quay will go in each with his big state delegation behind him, and each with a few delegates in the south. As to both these, all the rest is mystery. Davis will have Minnesota and South Dakota to start with. Bradley will probably rows may be presented by Michigan. Manderson will probably have all but two of the Nebraska delegates. Cullom will prob-

A most careful survey of the field disimprobability of a nomination on the first two or three ballots. A liberal allotment start against the field. The field seems to have the biggest bunch.

New England.

It is conceded by every one that the solid New England delegation will be for Reed Maine and some other of these states, it is confessed by the friends of other candidates, will stand by Reed to the end, whatbe anti-McKinley. Here again the delega- ever the result may be, but they profess to believe that the delegates from some of the New England states will have a second choice, and will leave Reed after a while. The Reed people claim, and the general in-dications are, that there will be no second choice with any of these delegations, and that if the Maine man should be defeated the whole of New England would still be



found standing by him to the last ballot Without contest or discussion the twelve delegates from Connecticut, the twelve from Maine, the thirty from Massachu-setts, the ten from New Hampshire, the ten from Rhode Island and the ten from

Vermont are counted for Reed. Representative McCall says that there is no doubt about New England standing solidly by Mr. Reed, and that they will do so, in his judgment, without any second choice. Mr. McKinley and Mr. Allison, he says, have many friends in Massachusetts and elsewhere in New England, but they regard Reed as their local candidate.

and elsewhere in New England, but they regard Reed as their local candidate.

Mr. Russell of Connecticut says that while McKinley has many friends in Connecticut and elsewhere in New England, there is no idea of being for any one but Reed, and they have no more thought of a second choice than the Ohio delegation has.

They have their own candidate and one for second choice than the Ohio delegation has. They have their own candidate, and are for

The New Hampshire state convention will meet at Concord on the 31st of this month.
The second district convention will be held
the same day at the same place, and the
first district the next day, at Manchester.
Should Reed ever be out of the race, it is Should Reed ever be out of the race, it is said there is a very tender spot for Morton.

Mr. Morton lived at both Concord and Harover many years ago, and did business Harover McKinley also in those places. Governor McKinley also has friends.

If the time should ever come when Reed

on a parity.'

New York and Pennsylvania.

The situation in New York and Pennsylvania is almost identical, except that in the former the general sentiment is regarded as more favorable to Reed, and in Pennsylvania it is regarded as probably more favorable to McKinley. In the New York delegation in Congress no one can be found who will admit any doubt as to the earnestness of Morton's candidacy, or for a min-ute discuss the possibility of a second choice. In the Pennsylvania delegation the only answer to all questions is that Quay is a candidate, and that Pennsylvania is

is a candidate, and that Pennsylvania is solid for Quay. Any talk of second choice or of the relative strength of other candidates in the state is resented.

The combination is generally regarded as anti-McKinley, whatever else it may or may not be. There are various estimates as to how the delegations of these two states would divide up if their favorite sons were out of the way. Reed's strength in New York is generally conceded, and there is a dispute as to whether he or McKinley is stronger in Pennsylvania.

There is a public belief that some sort of There is a public belief that some sort of understanding has been had between Quay

and Platt, and that the votes of Pennsylvania and New York will eventually be thrown for the same candidate. The unit thrown for the same candidate. The unit rule is expected to operate in both delegations, so that minority support will not count. No doubt is expressed that Quay will control the Pennsylvania delegation and throw it where he wants, if he drops out of the race himself. As to the New York delegation, one of the best informed of the republican members of the House says that they will yet for Morton unit says that they will vote for Morton until he tells them to stop, and if he is not nominated they will, when he retires, vote

as he says.

How the votes of these two great states will ultimately be cast in the convention no one can tell. It is doubtful whether the leaders have as yet any idea; but one thing generally recognized, or at least believed, is that the combination is to cast the seventy-two votes of New York and nearly all, if not quite all, of the sixty votes of Pennsylvania against McKinley.

New Jersey. Mr. Loudenslager says that the New Jersev delegation will go unpledged, and will be free to act as circumstances and the their choice after they get to the convention. They have no hostility toward any candidate. None of the New Jersey men will admit any preference with the delegation. The belief is expressed in other quar-ters that they will be found in the Reed

Maryland.

Representative Wellington says that the Maryland delegation will probably go to the convention without promise, pledge or obligation to any one of the candidates. As a compliment to their new republican governor they will probably cast their sixteen votes for Lowndes on the first ballot, and after that their course will be decided by the existing circumstances. There is a general understanding that Mr. Reed has



a little the best chance of bagging this delegation when the trap is sprung.

Representative Willis said to a Star reporter: "My opinion is that the people of my state are for McKinley, with Speaker Reed as second choice. Speaker Reed has some very strong friends, as well as other candidates, but McKinley has always been our choice."

The state convention has not been called. but will be held the last of May or the 1st of June. It will be held after the primaries for delegates to the convention take place.
From other sources it is learned that

Messrs. Higgins and Addicks have been mentioned as candidates for delegates-atlarge from the state. The delegates not be instructed, but they will support the candidate who is the choice of the republicans of the state.

Alabama.

One district has acted in Alabama. That was the fourth, which held its convention on March, 4th. The fight was McKinley against the field. The contending factions were nearly evenly divided. The anti-Mc-Kinleyites left the hall and went to a church and held a convention of their own. They elected W. F. Aldrich and F. Curtis, delegates. Aldrich who is contesting the seat of Representative Robbins, is for Reed, while Curtis is for Morton. The regular convention elected W. J. Stevens and Capt. T. J. Dunn, both pledged to McKinley.

The state convention will be held at
Montgonery in April, and the same fight had in the fourth district will be renewed there. R. A. Moseley, who is for Reed, is a candidate for re-election as state chairman. He is opposed by W. A. Vaughn, a lawyer of Birmingham. Vaughn is for Mc-Kinley. He is being backed by W. A. Youngblood and W. J. Stevens, both Mc-Kinley men.

The position of state chairman in a southern state means everything. Through that position all the plums are distributed. The indications are that Vaughn, the McKinley man, will win. If he wins McKinley will carry the state convention and elect the delegates-at-large, but there will be a con-testing delegation, as will be the case from almost every southern state. The district delegates will be divided, probably. The Mckinley people claim that their candidate will lead, and Reed and Morton will divide the minority between them. the minority between them. On the other hand the claim is made that McKinley will not have more than six of the delegates.

Arkansas. Arkansas will be the second state called at the republican national convention, and the solid vote of the state-sixteen-will be cast for McKinley. The republican state convention was held March 3, and the McKinley men had the convention all their

months ago. Some time before the state convention was held Gen, Clayton's name was mentioned for a cabinet position should McKinley win. M. A. Hanna sent a congratulatory telegram to the convention, to the effect that that state was the leader in the nomination of McKinley. The delegates at large from the state are Powell Clayton, H. L. Remmell, Henry M. Cooper and M. W. Gibbs, colored. District delegates have also been elected.

Another state convention will be held on

gates have also been elected.

Another state convention will be held on July 1 for the purpose of putting out a full state ticket. The republicans are very hopeful, and believe they have a chance of carrying the state this fall. Should they be able to make a combination with the populists they would stand a good chance, especially should the national democratic convention declare against silver. The independent sentiment in the state is large dependent sentiment in the state is large, and thousands of democrats would not vote for a gold standard candidate for President. The state convention adopted a platform in favor of "true bimetallism," in favor of protection and in favor of a tariff law, the rates of which "will meas ure the difference between American and European conditions, and will be fully adequate to protect ourselves from the invasion of our markets by oriental pro-ducts to the injury of American labor, and will in no case be too low to protect and exalt American labor and promote and in-

crease American production.'

The convention condemned "the action of the democratic party in Congress, espe-cially the Arkansas Senators and Represen-tatives, in voting to place and in placing tatives, in voting to place and in placing the products of our forests on the free list, whereby the lumbs industry of this state has been greats crippled and the price of labor employed in said industry greatly reduced." The onvention also declared in its platform that as protection should be the leading to ue in the coming campaign it regarded dov. McKinley as the logical candidate for President on such a platform. "He is a platform in himself," the convention declared, "and the delegates from this convention are hereby instructed to vote for him." There is a



Levi P. Morton.

it has made no kick, and there will be but one set of delegates at St. Louis. Florida.

Florida has elected two sets of delegates to St. Louis. The state convention was held last week. The regular convention, consisting of all but eighty delegates out of 230, elected eight McKinley delegates to St. Louis, although they were not instructed. The other convention was for anybody to beat McKinley, but is supposed to have been for Morton, and the delegates elected by it are Morton men. Anyhow, they are anti-McKinleyites. The bolting faction is known as the "lily whites," and has long been anxious to build up a white republi-can party in the state, and to retire the negro from active participation in the party management. It is headed by E. R. Gunby, formerly collector of customs at Tampa. He went to Florida from Mary-land. His factor is add to retire the collection in the party management. land. His faction is said to have the active backing of Morton, Quay and all the anti-McKingy candidates, and there will be a pretty fight at the national convention over which delegation shall be seated. The Gun-by faction elected the following delegates at large: E. R. Gunby, Tampa; H. W. Chan-ler, Ocala; H. S. Chubb, Winter Park; S. H. Coleman, Gainesville.

The party management in Florida has for years been in the hands of John G. Long, Dennis Eagan and Joe Lee, colored, and these men ran the regular convention last week. week. Long is the national committeeman and Eagan is the state chairman. Eagan was formerly collector of internal revenue This faction elected as delegates at large This faction elected as delegates at large E. S. Skinner, Escambia county; J. G. Long, St. Augustine; J. E. Lee, Jacksonville; L. W. Livingston, Key West. The same faction also elected delegates from the two congressional districts, one of the number being Dennis Eagan, state chairman. As the Eagan faction, which is opposed to

As the Eagan faction, which is opposed to class distinction, appears to be largely in the majority, the eight votes of Florida may be counted for McKinley.

The populist vote in Florida was small that national election but has grown in the last national election, but has grown some, and a combination between them and the republicans might worry the democrats.

· Georgia. A vigorous fight has been going on in Georgia for months between the McKinley and Reed supporters, Col. A. E. Buck has for years run things to suit himself in that state. He wants McKinley delegates from state. He wants McKinley delegates from the state, and seems to be getting along fairly well, although he has lost two district fights. The Reed men captured these districts. The remaining four were captured by the McKinley supporters. There are contests, however, from every district, and there will be contests from all the other districts yet to act. The state convention will begin and end with a squabble, but it is thought that the McKinley men will come out on top. Colonel Buck is a Maine man, but has lived in Georgia since the war. He has held office under every republican administration.

The Reed forces are being led by W. A. Pledger, the most prominent colored republican is the set.

Pledger, the most prominent colored re-publican in the state. There is a possibility that when the state convention meets Colonel Buck and Pledger may be able to harmonize thirgs and divide the delegation to the satisfaction of each. All each man wants is the honor of controlling the delegation, or a part of it. It is even hinted that the Morton, Quay and Allison men may bring "influence" enough to bear to get a goodly number of the delegates before the fight is over. Georgia republicans have a peculiar habit of seeing the error of their way at the lest moment and changing. Should there be no change in the fight from now on, however, McKinley may get sixteen out of the twenty-six delegates, and Reed the remainder.

North Carolina. Looking at North Carolina through congressional glasses it will be for McKinley. Senator Pritchard is one of McKinley's southern managers, and of the three republican Representatives from the state own way. Gen. Powell Clayton, who has been the republican leader of Arkansas Settle is for Reed. North Carolina is one

of the states in which the Congressmen take a hand in the fights for the election of delegates. Mr. Settle will be sure to make a fight for Reed, and his district will be almost certair to send Reed delegates. In Mr. Linney's district there is also considerable Reed sentiment. Throughout the state Allison is said to be second choice. the state Allison is said to be second choice. Of the twenty-two delegates to which the state is entitled, it is estimated that McKinley will get about seventeen and Reed five. The state convention has not been called, and none of the districts have

"The majority of the republicans of Kentucky are for McKinley should Gov. Bradley be out of the race," said Representative Colson to a Star reporter, "but all of the candidates have warm friends. Cullom of Illinois was born in my district, and he has

candidates have warm friends. Cullom of Illinois was born in my district, and he has many friends. Reed is also well backed, but, as I have said, the majority of the republicans of Kentucky are for McKinley. Our delegates will be instructed for Gov. Bradley, if he desires it."

So far as the republican Representatives of the state are concerned, Hunter, Pugh and Colson are for McKinley, while Lew's and Evans are for Reed.

The state convention will meet on April 15, for the purpose of electing four delegates-at-large. None of the district conventions have yet been held, but they will all meet between now and that time.

A pretty fight is expected when the state convention meets. Bradley is known to be very much in earnest in his candidacy for the pres'dential nomination. He hopes that he will be-one of the dark horses which will, it is expected by many, be necessary to bring on the track. If Mr. Bradley, who is said to be for Morton, cannot get the nomination, for first place, he might be induced into a combination by which he could get second place. In order to have things just where he can do as he pleases he must have delegates at his back who will help him in whatever he wants. Can he do this? is a question that is asked very often. If Representative Hunter and his friends have their way, the governor will get nothing at St. Louis but a complimentary vote on the first ballot for President, and then his influence will end. Few Kentuckians look upon Bradley's candident, and then his influence will end. Few Kentuckians look upon Bradley's candi-dacy with earnestness, and there are many of the leaders who do not care to be handi-capped to the extent of having to vote for him on the first ballot. They consider it a waste of votes. Many of the McKinley men take this view of it. They know what a fight is to be made on the Ohlo man after the first ballot, and they think that the votes they might cast for him on that bal-lot instead of for Bradley might nominate

So the fight in the state convention will really resolve itself into one between the supporters of McKinley and the other can-didates, with McKinley having the advan-



Senator Cullom.

should be chosen they will be instructed to vote for Bradley on the first ballot, or if there is any chance for him.

There is a bitter feeling between the adherents of Representative Hunter and of Gov. Bradley, growing out of the alleged knifing of Hunter by the governor's friends in the senatorial race. Hunter's friends will try to prevent any instructions for will try to prevent any instructions for Bradley, and they will at the same time try

to do something to curb the growing power of the governor in the state. It is a fight between Hunter and Bradley for the control of the politics of the state. The state convention will declare for sound money, protection and reciprocity. "Reciprocity is popular in Kentucky," said Representative Colson, "and protection is growing every day. Nearly every democratic mill men in day. Nearly every democratic mill man in Kentucky voted the republican ticket last year because their trade with Cuba had year because their trade with Cuba had been lost by the repeal of the McKinley law. They had established a good business in Cuba." In the congressional conventiors to be held between now and April 15 it is said that a majority of the candidates for delegates have publicly announced themselves for McKinley.

Representative Hunter did not care to talk on the situation event to say that the

on the situation, except to say that the Kentucky republicans are for sound money. "There are few free silver republicans in the state," he said.

Louisiana.

The squabble in Louisiana beats the thirteen puzzle, and there are few of the politicians of the state who know how it stands. They haven't any idea themselves. Unless there is a compromise between now and June the national convention will have

to settle the contest. Through it all, however, the indications are that Reed will come out on top. Ex-Gov. Pinchback and W. P. Kellogg, who have managed the republican machine for years, are both for the Maine statesman, and are doing all they can. Their influence is expected to turn over a majority of the delegates to Reed. The situation is constantly shifting. The opinion is expressed that Reed will get all but one of the delegates.

The republicans and populists, aided by

the sugar growing democrats, are getting the fusion movement in shape. They are going to nominate Capt. Pharr for governor. The fusionists will also put out congressional candidates.

Missouri.

Gov. McKinley could not secure a more solid or enthusiastic support from his own state than he is getting in Missouri. The supporters of all the candidates in that state admit that Missouri will send a solid McKinley delegation to St. Louis. There is no other battle cry in the state but "Mc-Kinley," and the funny part of it is that the majority of the politicians of the state are against the Chio man. Chairman Fil-ley is one of the few leading politicians who favor the apostle of protection, but he is a power. Reed has many friends among the politicians, but the rank and file of the party will have no one but McKinley. To carry out the wishes of the people, the politicians will vote at the convention for McKinley and he will get the thirty-four votes of the state in a lump. The newspapers have been reticent. They don't want McKinley, but don't care to kick against an overwhelming sentiment.

Only one district convention has been held. That was in the seventh, and the delegates were instructed for McKinley. The next convention will be out the 18th of this month. The fifteenth district will act at At least two of the Missouri Congressmen would vote for Reed if their constituents

didn't desire McKinley. They are Representatives Joy and Bartholdt. Each of them agrees that McKinley has everything.

The Reed men are working for their favorite as second choice, and that is where they expect to get in their work. If the state convention, which hasn't been called, doesn't instruct the delegates to stand to McKinley to the last, the Reed men are hopeful of accomplishing something. It is argued that if McKinley doesn't win on the first few ballots he will not win at all. When the delegation has stuck by him loyally up be considered as ended. Next to McKinley Reed is the most popular candidate in the A Missouri Congressman was asked how

it was there seemed to be so few Allison men in the state. He answered that Allison had rever taken any unusual interest in the state, although it joined Iowa. Congressman Crowther was one of the few men who cared to express themselves for publication on the Missouri situation. "Yes," he said, in answer to a Star man's question, "everything indicates that Mc-Kinley will have a united delegation at St. Louis. The people are for him, and think

that there is no one like him." "What makes him so popular in the state?" he was asked. "Numercus reasons," was the answer.
"Maj. McKirley is personally known to thousands of people in the state. He spoke throughout Missouri in the campaign of 1802. In my district he spoke to 20,000 peo-ple at one meeting. Missourl is an agricultural state, and the farmers believe in protection. They believe that protection is the principal issue in this campaign, and they cannot separate protection and Mc-

So far as the state and congressional campaigns are concerned, the republicans have never been more jubilant. They say they see victory ahead. They are preparing to take advantage of the divisions in the democratic rarks in the state on the financial questions. There is not so much division of sentiment in the republican ranks on these questions. It is claimed that the republicans are not for free silver of the 16 to 1 sert, but believe in bimetallism. This is gathered from talks with the Congressmen of that state.

Representative Joy is mentioned as the re-

Representative Joy is mentioned as the republican candidate for governor. He is a fighter, and would make things hum should he be nominated.

Mississippi.

The situation in Mississippi is simple but interesting. There are two factions in the state-one headed by John R. Lynch, an ex-auditor of the treasury, and the other by James Hill. Both are colored, and stand at the head of their race in point of intelligence and honesty. Hill was at one time internal revenue collector of the state. The state convention was held last week, and divided into two conventions. Each elected delegates to St. Louis, and the interesting part of it is that each selected McKinley delegates. There is no division so far as McKinley is concerned, the friends of the Ohio candidate say. The delegates of



all the time. The Hill faction seems to be in the majority in point of numbers. Mississippl democrats regard both Hill and Lynch as men of the highest standing, and say that whichever side loses at St. Louis will accept the defeat gracefully. It may be that each delegation will be given half a vote, and both delegations seated in that way. It is beginning to look now, however, as if the Lynch faction might turn against McKinley on account of alleged assistance given by McKinley's managers to the Hill faction.

The split comes about through each facthe spit comes about through each fac-tion wanting to control the state patronage should the republican national ticket be successful. There are few white republi-cans in the state, and they cut no figure in leadership. Mississippl is an exception that way. In most of the southern states a few white men run everything.

Tennessee.

H. Clay Evans, Chairman Newell Sanders and practically all the leaders of Tenressee are for McKinley. Representative Gibson leans toward McKinley, while Representatives Brown and McCall are understood to be favorable to Reed. Mr. Evans, who is the strongest and most popular republican in Tennessee, would like to be the vice presidential nom-ince on the ticket with McKinley, or with

any one else, but thinks that McKinley's nomination should give the south the vice presidency. Tennessee republicans claim that with Evans for Vice President Tennesthat with Evans for vice President Tennessee would go republican in November.
The state convention has not been called, but will probably meet some time in
May. The delegation from the state will
rot be instructed, as it has never been
the custom to do so. The opinion, from
the best sources, is that one of the delegates-at-large will be for Reed. This delegate-to-be is a man who is personally roop.

gate-to-be is a man who is personally popular. The other three will be for McKinley.

Representative Gibson said to a Star remorter that if the question were laft. He delegation at St. Louis, The Silver question at St. Louis, The Silver quest porter that if the question were left to a primary vote of the republicans of the state two out of every three men would the for McKinley.

He estimates that out of the twenty-four

The Illinois men in Congress agreements and the state of the state of the twenty-four the state of the state

delegates from the state McKinley will get sixteen, Reed six, Morton one and Allison

There is such a jumble in Texas that no man can predict the result at St. Louis. The two factions-"Lily Whites" "Black and Tan"-are at war with each other and with themselves. Four or five district conventions have been held. There has been a split in each and contesting del-Read, McKinley and Allison have secured delegates.

The leaders are badly divided. National Committeeman Coney is supporting Allison

Committeeman Cuney is supporting Allison with all his power; State Chairman Grant is for McKinley; the celebrated Webb Flanagan is for McKinley; Wilber Crawford of Cameron county, and a most popular leader, is for Reed.

These facts show the situation in Texas better than they could be told. The question of what presidential candidate will get a majority of the thirty votes of the state will not be settled until the national convention settles it. It will be in the solution of tion settles it. It will be in the solution of these perplexing southern contests that the real strength of any one candidate or com bination of candidates will be shown. If McKinley can win the majority of the southern contests, he will be greatly strengthened. If a combination against him wins, it will hurt him. Virginia.

The fight in Virginia is proceeding with

vigor and bitterness, and when the state convention meets at Staunton on April 23 there will be a contest such as has not been seen in the state for years. Col. William Lamb, the state chairman has incurred the resentment of a large num ber of the influential politicians in the state

Lamb is understood to be for Reed. At any rate, he is anti-McKinley, and the charge is that he wants to take a pocket delegation to St. Louis which he can deliver just as he sees fit. Among those who are opposing him are Messrs. Bowden of Norfolk, Allen and Waddell of Richmond and Editor S. M. Yost Waddell of Richmond and Editor S. M. Yost of Staunton. Mr. Yost's paper is fighting for McKinley. If Lamb is beaten when the state convention is held, it means that a majority of the Virginia delegation will go to the national convention for McKinley. Should Lamb win, the majority of the delegates will be anti-McKinley with the probgates will be anti-McKinley, with the prob-abilities that Reed will get them. Colonel Lamb is the successor to Mahone.

The republicans who are fighting him charge that he is dictatorial. They say that he has already picked out the delegates-at-large from the state, but has been notified that he cannot have his way. The triumph of Colonel Lamb will mean a great deal for him. It means that if a republican President is elected his signature to the application of any candidate will be final. The opposition recognizes this. From the number fighting him it looks a good deal like Lamb will be defeated.

"Our state is way down on the list, and the

nomination may be made before we are reached," said about as well-posted a man as there is from the state, "but we will cast a solid vote for McKinley when we are reached. Ninety per cent of our people are for McKinley. If we have any second choice at all it will be Reed. Of course, if we see any chance to nominate Senator Elkins we will make the attempt, but his name will not be presented to the convention unless we see that chance. Our delegation will go uninstructed."

The state convention will meet on the 22d of April. The third district will hold its convention on the 26th of this month. Several months ago the West Virginia delega-tion held a meeting here and decided to take no part in the selection of delegates. None of the delegation will allow the use of their names, not even Senator Elkins. The reason for this action is that West Virginia is full of brainy and ambitious men who will be glad of the honor of going to the national convention. There is a strong sentiment in the state against any set of men having

The state chairman of the party, W. M. O. Dawson of Kingwood, is strongly for Mc-Kinley, and the republican papers of the state are backing him. The McKinley column is likely to have the twelve votes of West Virginia.

South Carolina. The republican party of South Carolina

Kinley. The two are one and the same to each claiming to be the real party organization. One of these is headed by E. M. Brayton, and is the one which has lately been adding a good many democratic recruits to the party. Brayton, who is for Reed, claims to be the rightful state chairman. The other faction is led by E. A. Websier, excollector of internal revenue. He also



claims to be the rightful state chairman. This faction claims to be largely in the majority. Among the leaders in this faction are ex-Representative Robert Smalls, colored, and Thos. B. Johnson, the contestant for the and Thos. B. Johnson, the contestant for the seat of Representative Stokes of the seventh district. The Webster faction is supporting Allison solidly, while the other faction, or at least the chairman of it, is for Reed. The regular state convention is announced to be held on April 7, but the Brayton faction has called one for April 14, and there will be two distinct sets of delegates. It has been an almost invariable rule of national been an almost invariable rule of national conventions, in cases of these contests, to give each faction a half vote. McKinley has a good many strong friends among the minor leaders, but if there is no change in the situation from now until the state con-vention Allison will be the victor, and will get all, or nearly all, of the delegates. Smalls was once a power in the state, and ruled everything to suit himself. His county contains an enormous colored population, and he was formerly solid with them. Internal factions lessened his power. He is

Internal factions lessened his power. He is stronger in other parts of the state than at his home. Brayton, the leader of the Reed forces, was defeated for the republican nomination of the seventh district by Johnson, who is allied with the Webster-Smalls people.

A white republican party, composed of the better element of the old party and disaffected democrats, who are tired of the Tillman reform rule in the state, is being organized with some success, and the presence of this element makes the situation in crganized with some success, and the presence of this element makes the situation in that state somewhat doubtful. It is not thought that they will take much stock in the county conventions, preferring not to engage in the disgraceful scrambles which characterize such affairs. Many of the new recruits are McKinley men. They are connected with cotton factories, and want protection. Should they be able to turn the votes of their employes to the republican party it would be a large addition to the ranks.

party it would be a large addition to the ranks.

It is not likely that any combination between republicans and disaffected elements could be effective. So many colored votes were distranchised by the new constitution, adopted last year, that there would have to be a strong white heaking to wise

adopted last year, that there would have to be a strong white backing to wila.

Chairman Brayton was in Washington this week. He said: "The fight in our state is not so much one of presidential candidates. It is a question of organizing a respectable republican party. The most of the men who will attend the convention called by me are for Reed."

Representative Johnson of North Dakota says that in his state the fight is chiefly between Davis and McKinley. Davis is naturally very strong in the state, but recent reports, he says, rather indicate that Mc-Kinley has a little the best of the fight, though it is not yet certain that he will get the delegation. If the delegation had to drop to a second choice, there would be a very friendly feeling toward Allison.

In South Dakota a strong fight is being made to get the delegation for Davis. Senator Pettigrew, who is an earnest friend of Davis', is himself in the field, and expects to be one of the delegates, heading the delegation at St. Louis. The silver question enters into the fight. The principals.

will control the delegation, or rather that

The Illinois men in Congress agree that Cullom will be a serious candidate before the convention, and that he will have almost a solid delegation from the state. His candidacy must depend for any hope of success upon playing a waiting game, and, understanding this, it is said, his friends will stick by him until the time comes, if it should, that it would be obviously useless to make a further fight. It would be use-less to enter the contest at all under any other condition, as there is no idea that Cullon could lead carly in the struggie. There is a decided McKinley sentiment in the state, and the general impression seems to be that he would have a majority of the delegation if Cullom were not in the race. But a situation has developed which may change this. The McKinley people have de-clined to take Cullom's candidacy seriously, but have adhered to the idea that it was



Speaker Recd.

simply instigated to prevent McKinley from having the delegation from the start. Upon this assumption they have gone to work in the state, and it is said that from four to six, possibly more, of the delegates will be instructed for McKinley, in spite of the presence of a favorite son in the field. Thus Cullom has to fight the McKinley influence to secure the delegation of his own state, and it is argued that the Cullom delegates who may be chosen will not feel friendly to the Ohio man. This general proposition is probably subject to excep-tion. A seemingly conservative statement is that if Cullom should retire during the national convention the delegation would be divided between McKinley. Reed and Allison, the two former standing pretty close together. The delegation might vote solidly for either one of these men if the situation were such as to make that decide the contest. The Illinois members will not admit that there is any second choice, but insist that the delegation will stand by Culiom until he is nominated or retires of his own

Indiana.

The Indiana delegation in the House are very strongly favorable to McKinley, Most of them expect that the delegation from that state, while they will go to the convention unpledged, will vote almost solidly for the Ohio candidate. The Allison men are the chief ones to dispute this. They in-timate that there are forces at work in the timate that there are forces at work in the state which the delegation here do not properly understand, and which will bring about a different result. Representative Hardy of Indiana says that the Indiana delegation is for McKinley, sure. He rays McKinley will have the whole delegation. Seventy-two county chairmen, he says, have already declared for the Ohio candidate, and the members of the House here date, and the members of the House here find hardly any one but McKinley spoken of in their correspondence from hon

The twenty-six votes of Iowa will be cast in the convention for W. B. Allison, who is not only a favorite son, but one whose general strength warrants his state in adhering to steadfastly. Both Reed and McKinley have friends in the Iowa delegation in Congress. Reed has some very earrest friends who will have influence in the delegation to the national convention, but no one thinks of trying to make a break in that delegation any more than they would in the dele-gation from Maine. Allison being a sert-ous candidate and one whose best chance has always been more or less divided in the matter of leadership. There are now two distinct and hostile factions in the state,